

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the drawings and claims 1 and 7 were objected to. Claims 1-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1-4, 8, 9, 12, 13, 15, 16, 19-22, and 26-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Haughom (WO 03/038320). Claims 9-11 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Haughom in view of Bartley (U.S. Pat. No. 4,055,107).

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for indication of allowance of claims 5-7, 17, 18 and 23-25 if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

A “pressure controlled valve” is already shown in Figure 7 at reference numeral 29. This should be sufficient for the support of the claimed feature. In claim 19, “crankcase” and “piston wall” have been cancelled from the claim. These clarifications should avoid the objection to the drawings.

The claims have been amended to avoid the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. “Means for balancing” is the widest definition of arrangements that contribute to gain balance between the two sides of the sealing ring. This could be a valve but can also be some other device that can function as a dynamic balancing means. Please see the description at page 3, third paragraph.

“Valve device” can be a part of the sealing ring (see Figs. 3 and 4) but also be separate therefrom as a separate valve (see Figure 7).

It is believed that the feature of claim 9 is best understood looking at Figure 8, wherein at one side of the “means for liquid supply” 10 there is arranged the sealing ring 5, whereas on the other side of the “means for liquid supply” 10 (the opposite side), there is arranged the “sealing device”.

The invention according to independent claims 1 and 16 is related to the technology which is referred to in the introductory part of the description. Here the situation prevailing in the envisaged environment of the invention is explained.

In particular, according to the invention, the sealing ring is essentially free-floating in the groove. This has the advantage that the sealing ring can move and be relieved from great forces which would otherwise result in wear and shorter working life of the sealing arrangement.

Haughom describes a device wherein the sealing ring 24 is firmly placed at the top end of a piston. The sealing ring 24 is thus not essentially free-floating, wherefore the advantages of the present invention are not obtained by the device of Haughom.

In regard of the explanation above and the recited amendments, it is considered that no combination of Haughom with Bartley would lead to any aspect of the invention.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application should now be in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is in order, and such favorable action and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

However, if after reviewing the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner has any questions or comments, he is cordially invited to contact the undersigned attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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